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ABSTRACT

This book offers teachers the tools they need to incorporate drama into their language classes. It provides instructions on how to do the following: conduct a drama class; use acting and role-play exercises; select appropriate scripts for language learners; guide students to write their own scripts; and dramatize scripts for performance. Chapter 1, "Fluency and the Role of Drama in Language Classes," describes a drama class as opposed to a more traditional language class, discussing how to set the atmosphere and offering exercises to help students get acquainted and create a relaxed environment. Chapter 2, "Developing Fluency and Getting Students on Their Feet," focuses on the type of exercises that acting classes use to improve voice qualities and to examine what is most expressive in gesture and body language. Chapter 3, "Texts: Finding and Modifying a Published Script or Writing an Original Script," lists considerations that should be taken into account when choosing a play for the class, offering sources for finding plays. Chapter 4, "Page to Stage," takes the reader step-by-step through text analysis, casting and rehearsals, and the practical aspects of performing a play. Two appendixes offer teaching handouts and scripts. (Contains an annotated bibliography.) (SM)

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